

Message Text

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54
ACTION EUR-12

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H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

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SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY MARCH 7

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE
USIA FOR IOP/M

1. MIDDLE EAST. SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA COMMENTATOR (TSAPLIN) CLAIMS "QUIET DIPLOMACY" WILL NOT SOLVE THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS BUT DOES NOT MENTION THE SECRETARY'S TRIP OR THE U.S. SPECIFICALLY. REFLECTING LATEST SOVIET DOGMA, TSAPLIN LARGELY REPLAYS MAIN THEMES OF BREZHNEV'S FEBRUARY 14 REMARKS. RETURN TO MEPC, HE SAYS, ACQUIRES DECISIVE SIGNIFICANCE IN CONDITIONS THREATENING A MILITARY OUTBREAK. PARTIAL MEASURES AND POLICY OF "SMALL STEPS" HAVE PRODUCED NO SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE. NONETHELESS, TSAPLIN CONCLUDES, SOVIET POLICY HAS NEVER STOOD APART FROM ANY STEPS TO SETTLE THE CONFLICT IF THEY ARE LEADING TO THEFINAL OBJECTIVE OF A CARDINAL AND JUST SETTLEMENT. COMMENT CONCLUDES UNCLASSIFIED

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CITING BREZHNEV THAT USSR VIEWS PARTIAL STEPS

AS "USEFUL" IF THEY ARE LINKED TO AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT.

2. IN OTHER MIDDLE EAST ITEMS, IZVESTIYA CONTINUES ITS DAILY REPORTING ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SUPREME SOVIET PARTIAMENTARY DELEGATION IN AMMAN. SEPARATE STORY CRITICIZES ISRAEL FOR REFUSAL TO ALLOW ADEQUATE AID FOR FLOOD VICTIMS IN EL ARISH. TASS ITEM IN PRAVDA REPLAYS DHOFAR REBEL CHARGE THAT "ARAB REACTIONALY REGIMES" ARE INCREASING TENSIONS IN OMAN'S DHOFAR PROVINCE. ARTICLE ALSO REPORTS CHARGE THAT U.S. MRECENARIES ARE BEING RECRUITED TO FIGHT WITH OMAN'S FORCES AS PART OF EFFORT BY "CERTAIN CIRCLES" IN THE U.S. TO MOBILIZE RESERVES AGAINST THE DHOFAR "PATRIOTS."

3. ARMS CONTROL. PRAVDA CARRIES A TASS REPORT ON THE CONCLUSION OF THE SECOND ROUND OF THE ENMOD MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON. REPORT SAYS THE MEETINGS ARE CONTRIBUTING TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF VIEWPOINTS OF THE TWO SIDES AND THAT THE PARTIES INTEND TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS OF THIS SUBJECT AT THE PRESENT CCD MEETING. SEPARATE TASS ITEM (PRAVDA) REPORTS THE MOST RECENT WARSAW INITIATIVE. STORY CALLS IT USEFUL AND SAYS IT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT ELEMENTS OF THE WESTERN POSITION.

4. CSCE. PRAVDA HAS A LENGTHY UPBEAT ARTICLE ON EUROPE AND CSCE PROSPECTS BY YURI ZHUKOV. ZHUKOV LISTS SEVERAL ELEMENTS OF A POSITIVE TENDENCY IN EUROPE INCLUDING "NORMALIZATION" OF RELATIONS BETWEEN CAPITALIST AND SOCIALIST STATES, EASING OF THE BERLIN PROBLEM, FRG TREATIES WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES, EMERGENCE OF PRINCIPLES GOVERNING RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES, AND THE MBFR MEETINGS. THESE DEVELOPMENTS, ZHUKOV SAYS, ARE HEALTHY, AND NOW THE QUESTION OF CONCLUDING CSCE IS ACQUIRING MORE AND MORE URGENCY. U.S., FRANCE, UK, AND FRG, HE SAYS, HAVE COME OUT FOR THE "QUICKEST CONCLUSION" OF THE CONFERENCE AND THE SIGNATURE OF ITS DOCUMENTS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

5. PRAGUE PARTY SECRETARY CONFERENCE. PRAVDA FRONT-UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGES THE COMMUNIQUE FROM THE PRAGUE CONFERENCE ON IDEOLOGY. THE COMMUNIQUE STRESSES JOINT EFFORTS TO BE TAKEN IN PROPAGANDIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF V-3 DAY, THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW PACT, THE "CONCLUDING STAGE" OF CSCE, AND THE EUROPEAN PARTY CONFERENCE. ROMANIA WAS REPRESENTED AT THE CONFERENCE BY A LOWER LEVEL CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER.

6. U.S.-ASIA. A PRAVDA COMMENTARY BY A. SERBIN

COMMENTS ON A REPORTED PENTAGON DECISION TO SEND A CONTINGENT OF MARINES FROM OKINAWA TO PHNOM PENH, OSTENSIBLY TO HELP EVACUATE AMERICAN CITIZENS. THE REAL REASON, SAYS PRAVDA, IS TO OCCUPY POCHETONG AIRPORT TO SECURE THE AIRLIFT OF SUPPLIES. THE COMMENTARY POINTS UP "WASHINGTON" EFFORTS TO GET NEW AID FROM CONGRESS AND SCOFFS AT THE NOTION THAT CONGRESS IS TO BLAME FOR THE DECLINE OF THE LON NOL CLIQUE.

7. REGULAR PRAVDA COMMENTATOR VIKTOR MAYEVSKIY TAKES AFTER "PROFESSOR" MOYNIHAN FOR HIS REMARKS IN THE NEW YORK TIMES INTERVIEW ABOUT THE "THIRD WORLD" AND ITS AUTOMATIC UN MAJORITY. MAYEVSKIY, AS USUAL, ADDS SOME GRATUITOUS DIGS, CITING SOME OF MOYNIHAN'S REPORTED REMARKS DURING HIS TOUR AS AMBASSADOR TO INDIA, PARTICULARLY HIS DENIAL TO THE INDIANS OF CIA INVOLVEMENT IN ALLENDE'S OVERTHROW.

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